

City Planning Department

Quarterly Report

July 2014

Project Update

1. **Capital Improvement Program-** *2014-2020 CIP approved by City Commission. We are currently looking into new CIP software.*
2. **Traverse City Public Pier-** *Great Lakes Fisheries Trust Grant received to complete the design, preliminary engineering, studies and construction drawings and details to build an approx. 550 foot, universally accessible fishing pier at the mouth of the Boardman River on Grand Traverse Bay. The pier will provide unique, outstanding access for people of all ages, needs and abilities to fish for migratory and other species, and to learn about the Great Lakes, the importance of stewardship and the value, challenges and opportunities involving the fishery. Study Group has been formed. City received 7 responses to the RFQ. Study Group interviewed 4 firms. Planning and Engineering Departments are working together to review proposals and work with the Study Group on making a recommendation. Study Group to make a consultant selection recommendation to the City Commission in July.*
3. **Grand Traverse Commons Zoning Ordinance-** *Continuing to revise the ordinance with Garfield Township. Legal review has been completed and proof reading is in process. Document is still under review by the Joint Planning Commission. Once the document is through the review process, the next step will be setting public hearing at the Joint Planning Commission.*
4. **Boardman Lake Trail-** *Administering the Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant for the Boardman Lake Trail and developing a landscaping plan for the Boardman Lake Trail kayak/canoe launch/picnic shelter area on the west shore of Boardman Lake. Coordination with Engineering Department on construction implementation.*
5. **Perry Hannah Statue in Hannah Park-** *Continuing to work with funders to build a small plaza in Hannah Park at the corner of Sixth and Union Streets. Private source fund raising is underway for a statue of Perry Hannah and the surrounding hardscape and gardens. We are gathering cost estimates for products and design.*
6. **Active Transportation Plan-** *Continuing to work with the City Planning Commission on developing the Active Transportation Plan. A draft document is underway with a focus on developing a series of maps for the document.*
7. **Public education campaign regarding the “Traverse City Stops for Pedestrians” local ordinance –** *No further work has been completed.*
8. **Corridors Master Plan Implementation-** *Working with Grand Traverse County Planning to apply for MSHDA funding for a design charrette for the 8th Street corridor in the State’s next fiscal year.*
9. **Grand Traverse Bay Corridor Strategy Committee-** *Talking with MSU’s Planning, Design and Construction Department to assist with the Bayshore Corridor Committee goals from Elmwood Township to Acme.*
10. **Code Enforcement Officer position-** *Hired a new Code Enforcement Officer in May. Mike Trombley has received training opportunities and is becoming familiar with City Ordinances.*
11. **City Master Plan Committee-** *The committee is reviewing the Master Plan adopted in 2009. State law requires a formal review of the document to determine if revisions are necessary. The committee brought some recommended changes to the Planning Commission in July. They will be studying additional areas in the Master Plan based on the commission discussion.*

12. **Boardman River boardwalk project-** Submitted a NRTF Grant for a boardwalk along Boardman River south of the Eighth Street bridge. Met with DNR grant administrator for on-site visit.
13. **Clancy Park-** Submitted a DNR Passport Grant for improvements to Clancy Park. Prepared a staff report to the Planning Commission to show the project is in compliance with the Master Plan. Met with DNR grant administrator for on-site visit.
14. **Grand Vision Prosperity Grant-** Submitted a grant application for sidewalks and trees along 14th Street south of Thirlby Field. Awaiting results.
15. **Housing Building Committee-** Planning Commission committee developed regulations for Emergency Shelters. The committee is also currently discussing Accessory Dwelling Units.
16. **Eighth Street Restriping-** Project approved by City Commission, awaiting contract execution.
17. **Redevelopment Ready Community-** Presentation to City Commission was well received. Memorandum of Understanding and Resolution pending Commission approval.
18. **2014/2015 Streets-** For 2014-15, seven streets have been identified for reconstruction. Those streets are: **State Street** between Boardman and Railroad; **Franklin Street** between Front and Washington; **Seventh Street** between Union and Wadsworth; **Ninth Street** between Union and Pine; **Eleventh Street** between Union and Lake; **Union Street** between Sixteenth and Boughey; and **Plainview** entire length. Planning Commission discussed the streets at 2 meetings in May. Following the meetings, letters were mailed to owners/occupants on the affected streets asking for feedback. Letters were also emailed to all of the neighborhood association representatives. Planning, Engineering, DPS and Streets will meet to review the feedback in July. The Planning Commission will approve the street projects for consistency with the Master Plan at their August 5 meeting.
19. **Prospective Development Projects-** Ongoing meetings with developers/architects regarding various development opportunities